

**Claims**

What is claimed is:

1. A system that powers a master-slave device arrangement comprising:  
a power source that powers a master device *via* a slave device connected thereto;  
and  
a power detector that senses power provided to the master device and based thereupon regulates a power to the slave device.
2. The system of claim 1, the power detector is part of the slave device.
3. The system of claim 1, the master device is a scan engine of a data collection device.
4. The system of claim 1, the power detector comprises a comparator.
5. The system of claim 3, the slave device is a part of an interface component of the data collection device.
6. The system of claim 5, the slave device comprises a communication transceiver.
7. The system of claim 4, the comparator compares an indicator of power provided to the master device with a threshold value.
8. The system of claim 4, the power detector comprises a switch that selectively regulates power to the slave device based on an output signal from the comparator.
9. The system of claim 4, the power detector reduces the power to the slave device.

10. The system of claim 4, the power detector increases the power to the slave device.

11. The system of claim 6, the comparator comprises a current sensor that provides a signal being representative of the current delivered to the master device.

12. The system of claim 7, the indicator is an electrical current.

13. A system that powers a master-slave device arrangement comprising:  
means for powering a master device *via* a slave device connected thereto;  
sensing means for detecting amount of power provided to the master device; and  
means for regulating power to the slave device based on an output of the sensing means.

14. A method for powering a master-slave device arrangement comprising:  
providing a master device operatively connected to a slave device, the slave device having a power detector that senses power provided to the master device; and  
regulating power to the slave device based at least in part on an output of the power detector.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising, selectively reducing power to the slave device.

16. The method of claim 14 further comprising, detecting an indicator of the power provided to the master device.

17. The method of claim 14 further comprising, comparing the indicator to a threshold value.

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18. The method of claim 14 further comprising, increasing or decreasing power to the slave device based on the comparing act.

19. The method of claim 14 further comprising, providing a data scan engine as part of the master slave.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising, providing an interface component of the data collection device as part of the slave device.